## **Appendix A**

Napa River to American Canyon River – Bay Wetland River Parkway Program Grant Application



## DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

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October 12, 2007

California River Parks Grant Program The Resources Agency Attn: Bonds and Grants Unit 1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311 Sacramento, CA 95814

To Whom It Concern:

Subject: Napa to American Canyon River – Bay Wetlands Trail River Parkway

**Program Grant Application** 

This letter serves to confirm the Department of Fish and Game's (Department) willingness to enter into an agreement with the Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District (District) to enable the District to construct and operate a segment of Napa River - San Francisco Bay Trail. The proposed trail would utilize a portion of the levees within the Napa-Sonoma Marshes State Wildlife Area (former Cargill Napa Salt Plant Site), which the Department is currently in the process of restoring to tidal wetlands and other associated wildlife habitat types.

Restoration of the Cargill Napa Plant Site to tidal wetlands habitat is a key component of ongoing efforts to restore approximately 10,000 acres of wetlands in the Napa-Sonoma marshes. While a degree of public access has been, or is planned to be, provided at various locations within the Napa-Sonoma Marshes, the Department and other San Francisco Bay wetland restoration advocates find the Cargill Napa Plant Site to be the best location for public access and environmental education due to its physical proximity to urban areas. Certain public access elements have been included in and evaluated as part of the Department's project and environmental review; however, the Department does not have sufficient funding to either construct or operate anything more than the most minimal of access and interpretation facilities. We are therefore pleased to be able to partner with the Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District so that the District can construct and provide quality trail access and environmental education and interpretation.

The Agreement in the form of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) will need to include (but not be limited to) the following elements:

(1) Location of Agreement - The Department will make available to the District a portion of the Cargill Napa Salt Plant's eastern perimeter levee, from Green Island Road to the vicinity of Eucalyptus Drive (adjacent to ponds W2, W3, B-1, B-2 and B-3) to construct, maintain, and operate a packed gravel, non-motorized trail and interpretive signage (meeting Department standards and design criteria). The schedule for constructing the trail will be coordinated with and not interfere with the Department's restoration efforts.

- (2) Regulations and Limitations The Agreement will note that the site is a State Wildlife Area and, as such, is governed by Title 14, California Code of Regulations, and that public access is a secondary use of the Wildlife Area and must be compatible with wildlife resources.
- (3) Agreement on Maintenance The District will agree to take full responsibility for construction, maintenance, and operation of the trail and will seek the Department's consultation in this regard. The Department will maintain the levee under the trail.
- (4) MOU Term The term will be 25 years, with the option to extend by mutual agreement. The MOU will contain a clause indicating that both parties will work diligently to resolve any problems, but in the event the problems cannot be resolved, it will allow the State to terminate the MOU Agreement at any time by giving a 90 days notice.
- (5) Changes in Agreement Amendments will be permitted as necessary to better achieve the purposes of the Agreement and the enforcement of applicable Title 14 CCR regulations.
- (6) Coordination Meetings Throughout the Agreement, a Bay Trail Oversight Committee shall be formed to regularly meet for the purpose of discussion of issues including, but not limited to management, trail use, maintenance, potential closures, and law enforcement.

If you have any questions or concerns relating to this letter of intent, please contact Mr. Larry C. Wyckoff, Senior Wildlife Biologist, at (707) 944-5542 or by email at

Sincerely,

Charles Armor

Regional Manager Bay Delta Region

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cc: John Woodbury

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